Introduction of new railway services

†1370. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for introducing new railway service pending with Government of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of Rajasthan has also submitted some proposals in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria for introducing new railway service alongwith the ground on which the proposals received from the Government of Rajasthan have not been approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) 5 pairs of new train services announced in Railway Budget 2005-06 & 2007-08 are pending at present.

(b) and (c) The following demands were received from Chief Minister/Rajasthan for introduction of new services:-

Jaipur-Pune	Ajmer-Kota	Jaipur-Bhopal
Jaipur-Puri	Jodhpur-Coimbatore	Amritsar-Mumbai *via* Ahmedabad
Ajmer-Kanniyakumari	Anupgarh-Delhi *via* Bhatinda	Amritsar-Mumbai *via* Bikaner

Amritsar-Mumbai *via* Jodhpur

New trains are introduced taking into account demands from the public representatives and various factors like availability of resources, operational feasibility, traffic justification, completion of gauge conversion works, new lines, development of requisite facilities etc.

The proposals received from Chief Minister/Rajasthan were examined but not found feasible for implementation due to operational and resource constraints.

Damage to tracks due to heavy rain in Orissa

1371. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every year during heavy rainy season in the State of Orissa huge number of railway tracks get damaged or covered with water and complete trains services get affected;

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking any measure to avoid these happenings which is causing lot of damage to railway and inconvenience to public; and

(c) what is the total loss railway is facing every year for the last five years due to these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi